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KC  
7-24-02  
PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2688

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Miyoko SHIMADA, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2812  
)  
Application No.: 09/982,003 ) Examiner: *Unassigned*  
)  
Filed: October 19, 2001 )  
)  
For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING )  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits in this application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate their consideration by making an appropriate notation on this form.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English language documents, Applicants provide English language abstracts of the enclosed documents.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any

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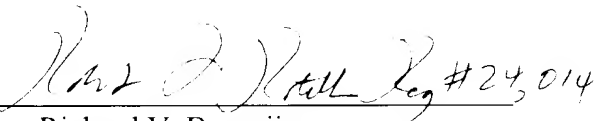
claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present the relevant facts and law to the Office regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
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By:  #24,014  
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Dated: July 15, 2002  
Enclosures

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